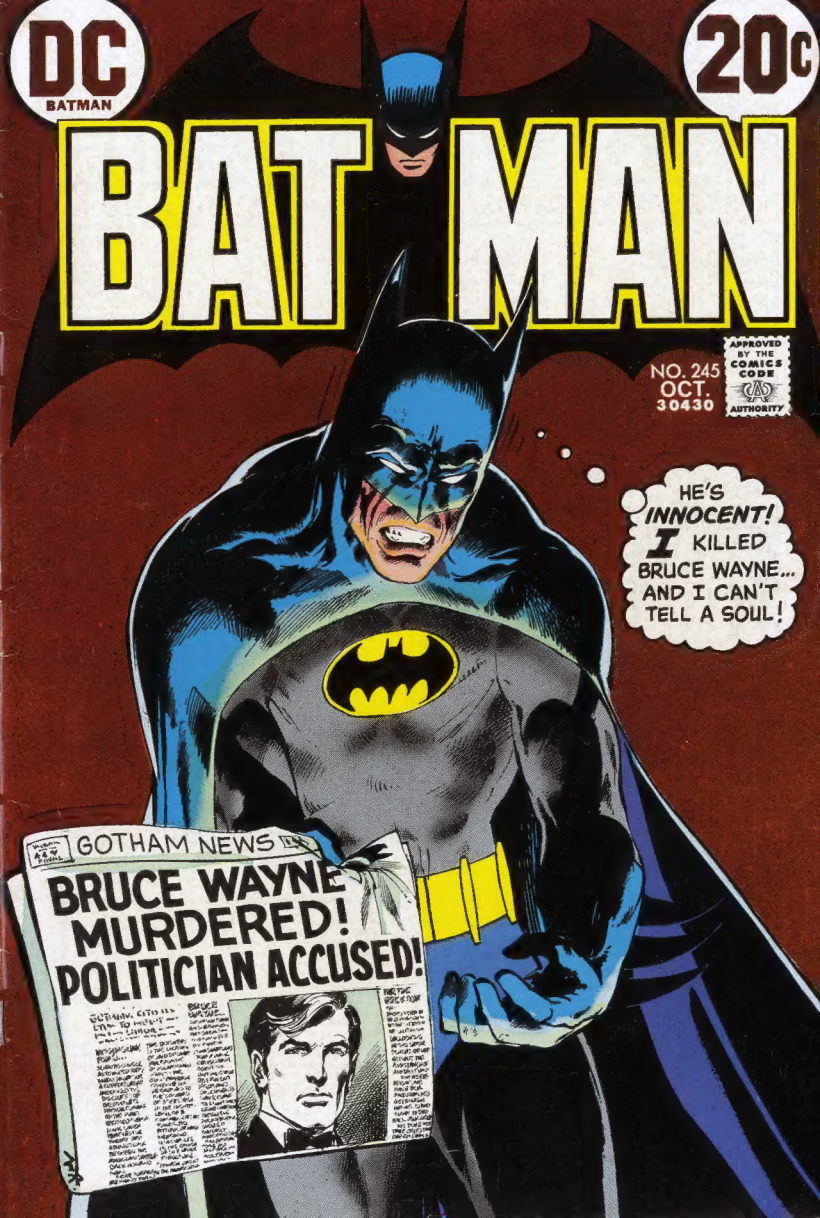
DC
BATMAN
20c
BAT MAN
NO. 245
OCT.
30430
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
HE'S INNOCENT! I KILLED BRUCE WAYNE... AND I CAN'T TELL A SOUL!
GOTHAM NEWS
BRUCE WAYNE MURDERED! POLITICIAN ACCUSED!

FAMOUS NAME

PRIZES OR CASH

THE EASY WAY!

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OLYMPIC

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DEPT. 72NC8
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YOU CAN GET THESE and many, many other big prizes — or cash — simply by selling beautiful Olympic IMPRINTED CHRISTMAS AND ALL-OCCASION CARDS. The Olympic way is the IN way! Here's why . . .

OLYMPIC SAMPLE BOOK IS FREE! It contains samples of fast-selling Olympic cards — and it's yours to keep. We don't send you boxes of cards in advance. With Olympic, you never have to worry about paying for, or returning, boxes you don't sell.

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FROM
NAME_____
ADDRESS_____
CITY_____
STATE_____ ZIP_____

FROM THE DARKNESS OF THE CITY'S SECRET HEART COMES THE...
BATMAN
IN THE SKY, THE SILENT CALL FOR THE DREAD BATMAN! AND ON A GOTHAM CITY AVENUE, A FAR FROM SILENT ARGUMENT..
BILKER, I SAY THIS ABSURD ACCUSATION IS SLANDER! --AND I'LL HAVE YOUR HIDE FOR IT!
THERE ARE COURTS IN THIS COUNTRY--
TRUE, MISTER HARVEY! I EXPECT YOU'LL BE SEEING A LOT OF THEM AFTER I PRODUCE MY PROOF TOMORROW!
GENTLEMEN,,, PLEASE!
BILKER ACCUSES RIVAL OF WAYNE MURDER!
IN THESE SHRILL, HEATED WORDS IS THE BEGINNING OF WHAT IS PERHAPS THE BATMAN'S MOST BIZARRE EXPLOIT--
The BRUCE WAYNE MURDER CASE!"
STORY: DENNY O'NEIL
ART: NEAL ADAMS & DICK GIORDANO
EDITOR: JULIUS SCHWARTZ

BATMAN, Vol. 33, No. 245, Oct., 1972. Published monthly (with the exception of Jan., March, July and Nov.) by NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 909 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022. Carmine Infantino, Publisher. Julius Schwartz, Editor. Sol Harrison, Production Manager. Ed Lolacher, Circulation Director. Second Class Postage paid at New York, N.Y. and additional mailing offices. Advertising Representative, Sanford Schwarz & Co., Inc., 16 West 46th Street, New York, N.Y. 10036. Copyright ©1972 by National Periodical Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. No actual persons, living or dead, are intended or should be inferred. Printed in U.S.A.

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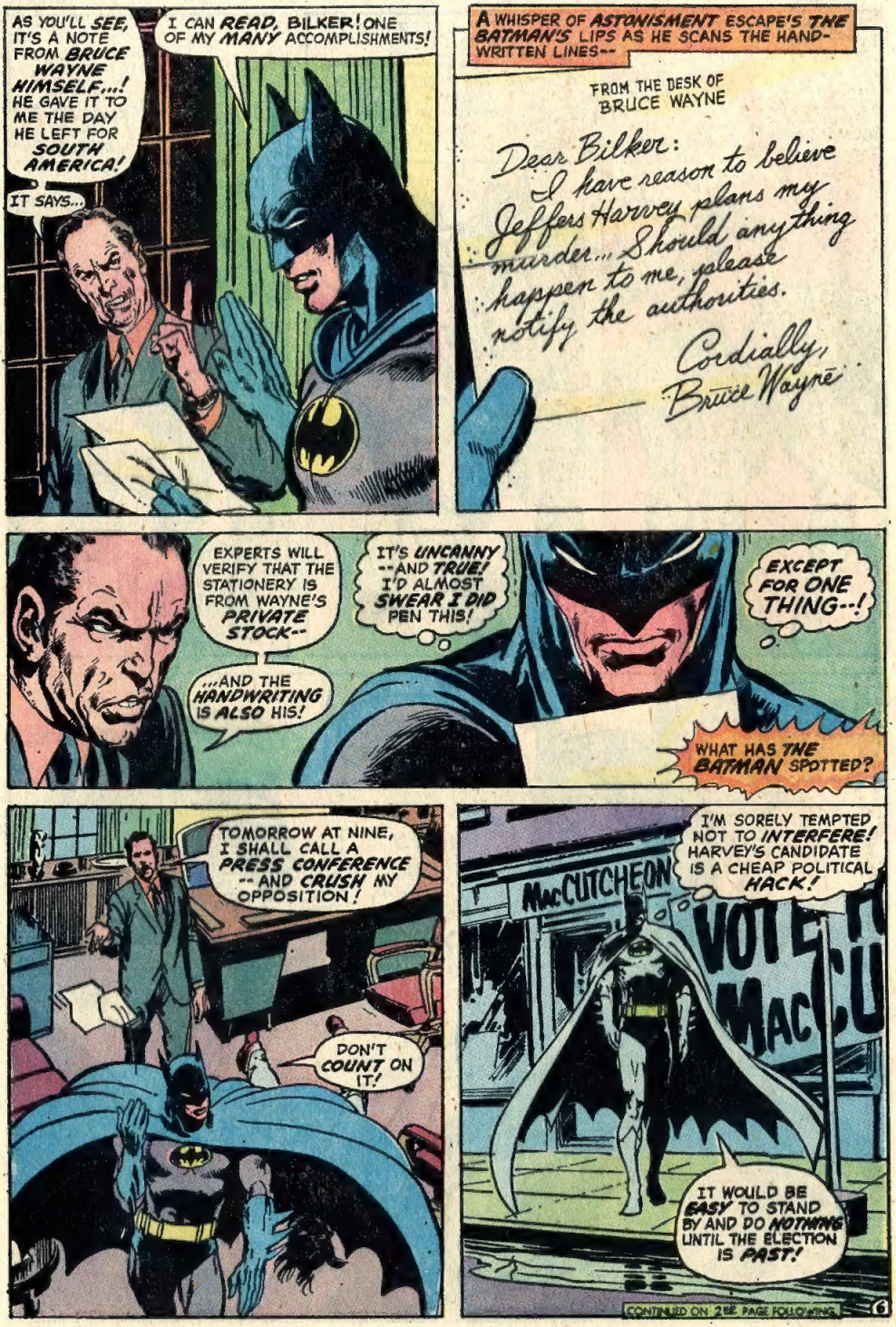
BY HEAVEN, I WON'T BE THREATENED BY A TWO-BIT UPSTART--
BUT YOU WILL--
--COOL OFF!
THE... BATMAN! WHERE THE DEVIL DID YOU COME FROM?
I CALLED HIM, MR. HARVEY!
WHY, COMMISSIONER GORDON--? WE'VE NO NEED OF A MASKED MEDDLER HERE!
WE HAVE NEED OF SOMEBODY WHO CAN MAKE SOME SENSE OF THIS... SHOUTING!
THE BATMAN KNEW BRUCE WAYNE... WELL!
HOW IS WAYNE INVOLVED?
AS YOU PROBABLY KNOW, BATMAN, THESE... AH--GENTLEMEN ARE EACH BACKING CANDIDATES IN THE FORTHCOMING MAYORALTY ELECTION!
A LESS CHARITABLE MAN THAN MYSELF MIGHT CALL THEM... POLITICAL BOSSES!
MR. BILKER IS ACCUSING MR. HARVEY OF HAVING WAYNE KILLED!
ANY PARTICULAR REASON, BILKER?
YES! IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO HIS DISAPPEARANCE, WAYNE ANNOUNCED HE WAS WITHDRAWING SUPPORT FROM HARVEY'S MAN!
AND IN THE MORNING, I INTEND TO PROVE HARVEY'S GUILT!
2

TEN MINUTES FROM THE SECOND YOU OPEN YOUR LYING MOUTH, BILKER, I'LL HAVE EVERY LAWYER IN THE STATE ON YOU!
BETTER SAVE THEM FOR YOURSELF!
GET OUT OF HERE -- BOTH OF YOU!
DO YOU THINK WAYNE WAS REALLY MURDERED? -- THE REPORTS SAID HIS PLANE CRASHED IN SOUTH AMERICA!
I CAN'T EXACTLY SAY, COMMISSIONER! BUT THIS I CAN SAY... GOTHAM CITY CAN'T AFFORD AN UGLY POLITICAL SQUABBLE JUST NOW!
IT WOULD TEAR THE TOWN TO SHREDS!
SO... I'LL DO A BIT OF QUIET INVESTIGATING...
...AND REPORT TO YOU LATER!
IT'S TRUE ENOUGH I DID PULL MY SUPPORT FROM THE HARVEY CREW RIGHT BEFORE I STAGED BRUCE WAYNE'S PHONY DEATH -- *
... BILKER'S CANDIDATE IS THE BEST OF A ROTTEN LOT!
*NOTE: "BRUCE WAYNE -- REST IN PEACE" -- IN BATMAN #242.
BUT BILKER'S STORY IS PHONY AS A TIN GUMDROP! -- OBVIOUSLY! BECAUSE UNDER THIS COSTUME I AM BRUCE WAYNE!
VOTE FO
MACCUTCHEON
THE QUESTION BECOMES -- IS HE DELIBERATELY LYING? -- OR IS HE BEING DUPED?
3

MAYBE THE ANSWER LIES IN THE ROOM BELOW-- BILKER'S PRIVATE OFFICE!
SEEMS I'VE TIMED MY ARRIVAL PERFECTLY!
SAY, BOSS-- TELL ME...
...YA GONNA SOCK IT TO THAT HARVEY FOR REAL?
INDEED I AM! BY TOMORROW NIGHT, HARVEY AND HIS ORGANIZATION WILL BE GARBAGE!
IN MY HAND I HOLD A PAPER WHICH WILL DESTROY THEM PERMANENTLY!
I'D LIKE TO SEE YOUR EVIDENCE!
...TH' BATMAN!
I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN YOU'D COME SNOOPING!
RICHARD.. EJECT THIS FOOL! HE FOULS THE PREMISES!
MY PLEASURE, BOSS!
OH... BROTHER! HERE WE GO AGAIN!
OKAY, CHUM... I'LL PLAY THE IDIOT GAME!
TRY YOUR BEST SHOT!

SEEMS LIKE EVERY CREEP I GO AGAINST HAS A WALKING TUB OF SUET WHOSE BRAINS ARE IN HIS KNUCKLES!
THEY HUFF AND PUFF AND SWING...
...WORK UP A LOT OF SWEAT MAKING LIKE BRAWLERS WHEN THEY PROBABLY COULDN'T WHIP ORPHAN ANNIE!
EVENTUALLY I GET TIRED OF THEIR ANTICS--
...OR MAYBE I FEEL SORRY FOR THEM! ANYWAY, I USUALLY PUT THEM OUT OF THEIR MISERY WITH A SHOT TO THE GUT--AND A BIT OF KARATE!
SLEEP TIGHT, DUMMY!
A SUGGESTION, BILKER! REPLACE THE GOON WITH A NURSEMAID!
NOW I SHALL ASK POLITELY FOR THE PAPER!
A-ALL RIGHT--


AS YOU'LL SEE, IT'S A NOTE FROM BRUCE WAYNE HIMSELF...! HE GAVE IT TO ME THE DAY HE LEFT FOR SOUTH AMERICA!
I CAN READ, BILKER! ONE OF MY MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS!
IT SAYS...
A WHISPER OF ASTONISHMENT ESCAPES THE BATMAN'S LIPS AS HE SCANS THE HAND-WRITTEN LINES--
FROM THE DESK OF BRUCE WAYNE
Dear Bilker: I have reason to believe Jeffers Harvey plans my murder... Should anything happen to me, please notify the authorities.
Cordially, Bruce Wayne
EXPERTS WILL VERIFY THAT THE STATIONERY IS FROM WAYNE'S PRIVATE STOCK--
...AND THE HANDWRITING IS ALSO HIS!
IT'S UNCANNY --AND TRUE! I'D ALMOST SWEAR I DID PEN THIS!
EXCEPT FOR ONE THING--!
WHAT HAS THE BATMAN SPOTTED?
TOMORROW AT NINE, I SHALL CALL A PRESS CONFERENCE --AND CRUSH MY OPPOSITION!
DON'T COUNT ON IT!
I'M SORELY TEMPTED NOT TO INTERFERE! HARVEY'S CANDIDATE IS A CHEAP POLITICAL HACK!
MacCUTCHEON
IT WOULD BE EASY TO STAND BY AND DO NOTHING UNTIL THE ELECTION IS PAST!
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING

Kenner's

SSP
SUPER SONIC POWER™

RRRR-RRRRRR

WHAT THE HECK IS THAT?

A SONIC SOUND MODEL

WOW!

RRR-RRRRRR

WHAM

IT'S THE NEWEST SSP™ IDEA... A HERK ACTION STUNT SET!

SET UP CAESAR'S SNAP-TOGETHER COLUMNS

PULL--TRY TO GET HERK TO JUMP...

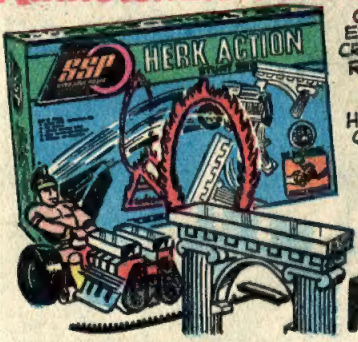
ZOWIE!

...THRU THE RING OF FIRE AND...

DID IT!!

...BETWEEN THE COLUMNS! THE SKILL AND THRILLS ARE YOURS!

Kenner's HERK ACTION STUNT SET



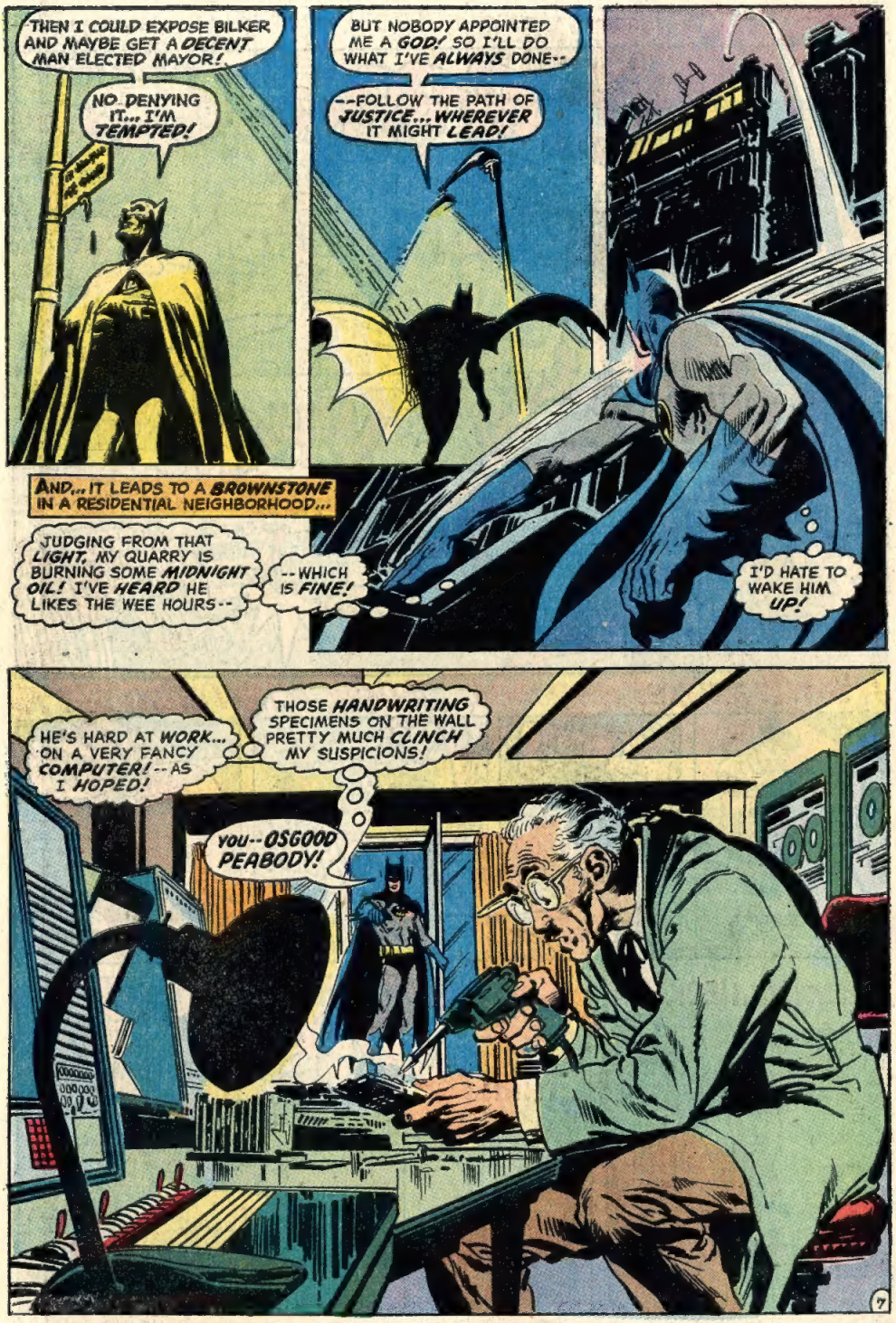
COMES WITH EVERYTHING TO CREATE EXCITING ROMAN CIRCUS THRILLS!

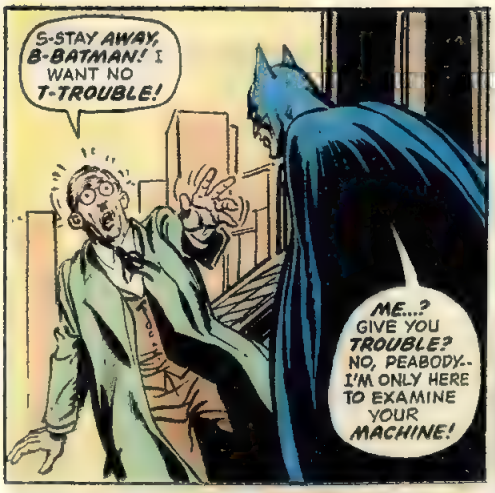
HERK STUNT MAN, CAESAR'S COLUMNS, THAT SMASH APART AND SNAP BACK TOGETHER, RING OF FIRE, JUMP RAMP AND T-STICK.

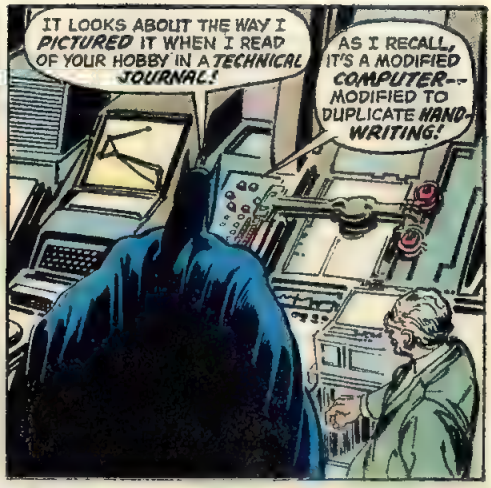
OTHER SSP™ STUNT MEN WITH SONIC SOUND AND T-STICK AVAILABLE SEPARATELY!

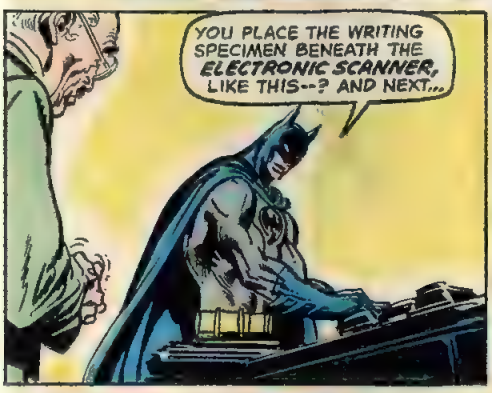
MOVIN' MARVIN

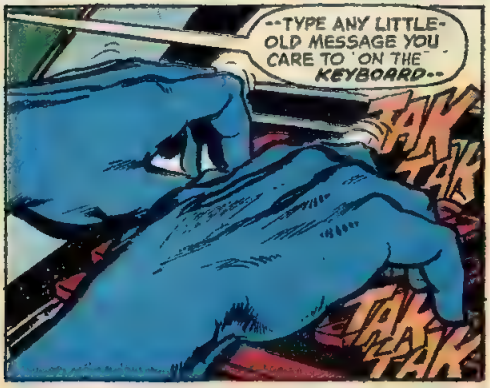
KNIGHT RIDER


THEN I COULD EXPOSE BILKER AND MAYBE GET A DECENT MAN ELECTED MAYOR!
NO DENYING IT... I'M TEMPTED!
BUT NOBODY APPOINTED ME A GOD! SO I'LL DO WHAT I'VE ALWAYS DONE--
--FOLLOW THE PATH OF JUSTICE... WHEREVER IT MIGHT LEAD!
AND... IT LEADS TO A BROWNSTONE IN A RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD...
JUDGING FROM THAT LIGHT, MY QUARRY IS BURNING SOME MIDNIGHT OIL! I'VE HEARD HE LIKES THE WEE HOURS--
--WHICH IS FINE!
I'D HATE TO WAKE HIM UP!
HE'S HARD AT WORK... ON A VERY FANCY COMPUTER! -- AS I HOPED!
THOSE HANDWRITING SPECIMENS ON THE WALL PRETTY MUCH CLINCH MY SUSPICIONS!
YOU-- OSGOOD PEABODY!




IT LOOKS ABOUT THE WAY I PICTURED IT WHEN I READ OF YOUR HOBBY IN A TECHNICAL JOURNAL!
AS I RECALL, IT'S A MODIFIED COMPUTER-- MODIFIED TO DUPLICATE HAND-WRITING!





INNOCENT TOY... EXCEPT IF IT IS USED WRONGLY! AND IT WAS...AS THIS PIECE OF BRUCE WAYNE'S STATIONERY PROVES!
IT WASN'T HARD TO STEAL FROM WAYNE'S OFFICE, WAS IT--?

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

7 FOOT MONSTER

Bigger than life—Frankenstein, the man made monster. Stand 7 foot tall, his eyes glow eerily. In authentic color on durable polyethylene. As scary as your wildest nightmare.

No. 885 ..... $1.00

MONSTER-SIZE SKELETON

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THROW YOUR VOICE

Throw your voice into trunks, behind doors, everywhere. Fits in your mouth out of sight. Fool teacher, friends, family. Free book on "How to Become a Ventriloquist."

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SILENT DOG WHISTLE

This whistle can't be heard by human ears, but Rover can, hear it half a mile away. Your dog will understand that this whistle is for him alone. Be amazed how quickly he responds.

No. 701 ..... $1.00

COMPLETE SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR KIT

★ BADGE ★ CARRYING CASE
★ SPECIAL I.D. CARD

ONLY $2.75

This professional type detective badge kit and case includes an extra heavy silvered nickel badge for use by private and special investigators PLUS authentic-type case and I.D. Card. Impress your friends with this official looking novelty.

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SEE BEHIND GLASSES

A specially treated pair of sunglasses with secret mirrors that enable you to see behind you without anyone knowing that you're watching.

No. 30 ..... 75¢

THE BEAST

From 25,000 FATHOMS

This full size wall poster is terrifying enough to be beautiful. Your room or den NEEDS this famous movie favorite—complete with steely, glinting eyes, and man-eating teeth. There is also the terrible giant ape "King Kong" who terrified the country—a perfect companion for the "Beast"

ITEM 639B....THE BEAST.....$1.00
ITEM 639K....KING KONG.....$1.00

ORDER BOTH for $1.75 and Save

XRAY SPECS

AN AMAZING OPTICAL ILLUSION

ONLY $1.00

Scientific optical principle really works. With Xray Specs you seem to be able to look through flesh and see the bones underneath. Look at your friend, is that really his body you "see" under his clothes?

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only $1.00

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FREE NERVE CENTER CHART

Here's what you get!

- 20 Best KARATE blows and chops
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- JUDO throws, JU JITSU Holds
- Isometric muscle building course
- Endurance exercise and LOTS MORE

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MUSCLES OF STEEL

Results in just 30 days

Pocket gym slaps inches of muscle on your arms and torso. Gain the respect of your friends—the admiration of the girls. Keep fit and healthy. Fear no one! Made of heavy rubber.

No. 7001 only $1.00

OVER 1000 FREE GIFTS YOURS FOR THE ASKING

This miracle book gives the addresses of associations, federal agencies, and manufacturers that are anxious to send you ABSOLUTELY FREE samples, manuals, and books. A fabulous treasure trove completely up-to-date which will bring you gifts worth many times its low cost.

Item #88 50c

MONEYMAKER

Insert a blank piece of paper, turn knob and . . . OUT COMES A REAL DOLLAR BILL! Insert the dollar and it changes to a $5 then the $5 changes to $10.

A122 ..... 25¢

ONION GUM

Looks like real chewing gum but tastes like ONIONS! It's too funny! 5 slices to a pack.

No. 281 ..... 25¢

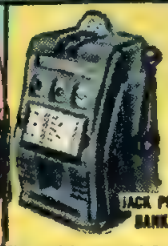
ONLY 3.98

Weighted Wristlets

"Power Packed" Arm Builders To Give you mighty striking power

"Power Packed" wristlets build the powerful arms you want without special equipment or exercises. Just wear these loaded weighted wristlets during your ordinary activities at work or play.

..#900... ....$3.98



JACK POT BANK

Dime-operated, one armed Bandit" works like those in Las Vegas. Deposit dime, pull handle, and reels spin like the real thing. Dimes are removable. Should not be used for gambling.

No. 2980 ..... $1.69

HOT PEPPER GUM

Lots of FUN guessing out this Sensational Gum with Hot Pepper added. Regulation pack, 5 sticks in cello wrapped package to keep it fresh.

A121 25¢

SMOKE CLOUD

Light one and watch the column of thick white smoke rise to the ceiling and expand into a dense cloud. Sensational surprising effect.

No. 971 25¢

PHONY CAST

Imitation white plaster arm cast complete with arm sling. Looks like the real thing! Fits teenagers or adults.

A4 ..... $1.00

RAQUEL WELCH PILLOW

ONLY $1.98

What man wouldn't enjoy spending a night with Raquel Welch? Well, we can't deliver her, but we can deliver that next best thing—a 12" x 28" inflatable pillow of Raquel made of rugged vinyl to serve as your headrest. Keep her for yourself or show her to your friends. Livens up party when inflated cool and feels like great gag item.

RR15 ..... $1.98

SURPRISE PACKAGE

Are you willing to take a chance? We won't tell you what you get, but because you're willing to gamble, we'll give you more than your money's worth.

No. 878 ... only 50c

Secret Spy Scope

PEN SIZE—CLIPS ON YOUR POCKET. 6 POWER MAGNIFIER.

Six power wide field magnifier is great for watching sporting events, nature study, girl watching and counter spying. Also contains a 30 power microscope. Not a toy but a real optical instrument.

No. 739 ..... $1.50

SKIN HEAD WIG

Most people try to grow hair. This is just the opposite. Made of flesh toned latex to fit all heads, really changes your appearance.

No. A35 .. .. $1.00

WEREWOLF HORROR MASK

This rubber mask is so grotesque that it is sure to shake up the whole neighborhood. Be the "Werewolf" that prowls again!

No. 26W....$1.98

WITH COMBINATION LOCK ONLY YOU CAN OPEN

SECRET BOOK SAFE

Looks like any book to camouflage your valuables. Securely locked with your own private combination. Tough under-structure is covered with simulated leather binding.

No. 700 ..... $1.00

JOY BUZZER

Wicked novelty you wear like a ring. Your victim gets a "SHOCKING" hand shake. Absolutely harmless.

No. 238 ..... Only 50c

HONOR HOUSE PROD. CORP. DEPT. 86GK94
35 WILBUR ST., LYNBROOK, N.Y. 11563

Rush me the items listed below. If I am not 100% satisfied I may return any part of my purchase after 10 days FREE TRIAL for full refund of purchase price.

We cannot accept orders totaling less than $1.00.

NAME & NUMBER OF ITEM	HOW MANY	TOTAL PRICE

Please add 25c to total order for postage and handling.
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED

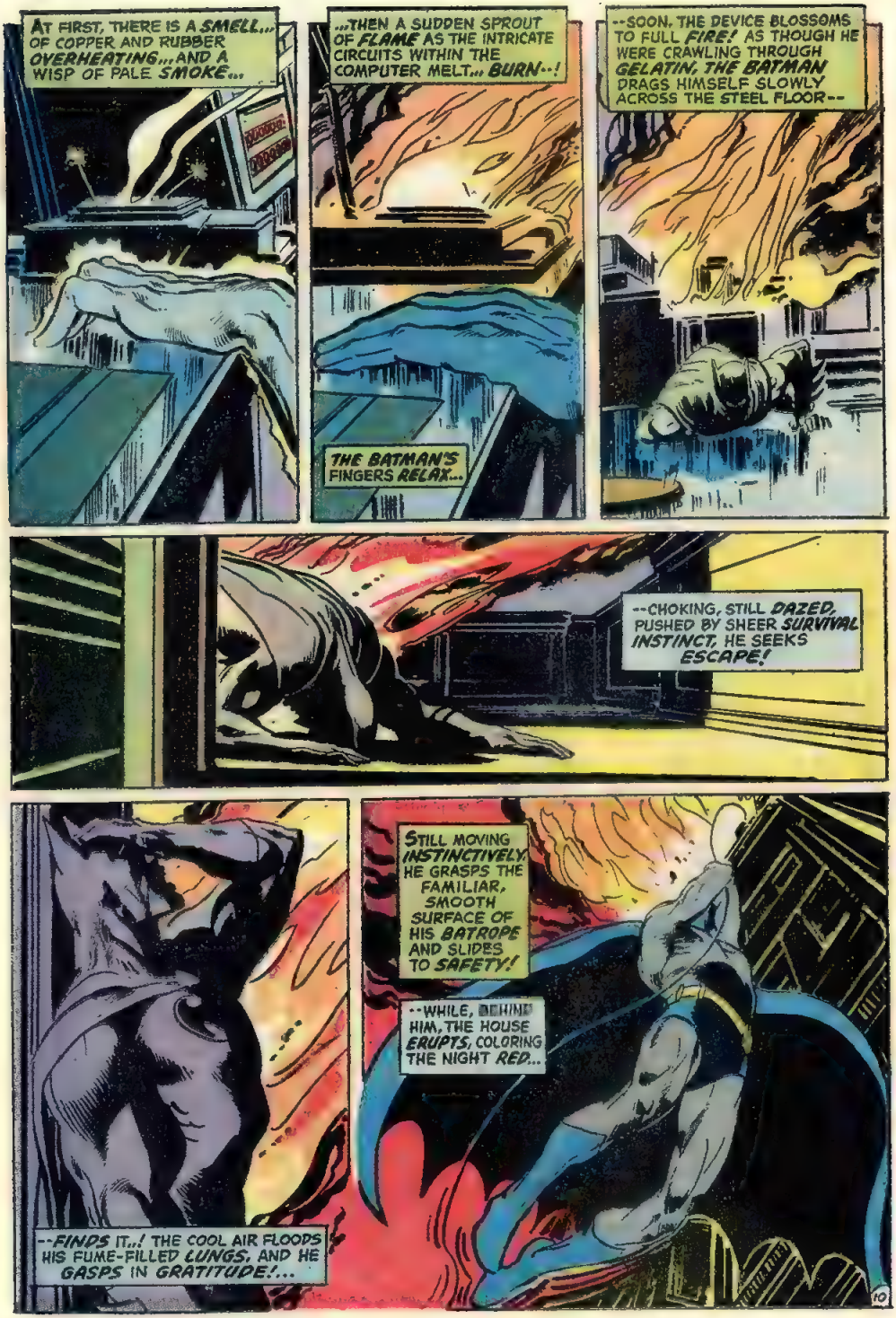
For COD orders please send 50c good will deposit. Pay postman the balance on delivery plus COD and handling charges.

NAME

ADDRESS ZIP

NY State residents add state and local sales tax.

--NOR WAS IT DIFFICULT TO FIND A SPECIMEN OF WAYNE'S HANDWRITING! YOU'VE USED YOUR TOY TO COMMIT FORGERY--
--HAVEN'T YOU?
H-HE FORCED ME... BILKER! HE SAID HE'D KILL ME... AND NOW HE WILL! UNLESS...
UNLESS WHAT, PEABODY?
UNLESS I CAN... STOP YOU...
...LIKE THIS!
ZAKK
IN PANIC, THE COWERING SCIENTIST TOUCHES LIVE, BARE WIRES TO THE METAL SURFACE THE BATMAN'S HAND RESTS ON-- SENDING HUNDREDS OF NAKED VOLTS COURSING INTO THE CRIME-FIGHTER'S BODY--
ELECTRICITY... CONTRACTING MY FINGER MUSCLES! CAN'T... LET GO!
SORRY, BATMAN! I DON'T WISH TO HURT YOU...
...BUT I NEED PROTECTION!
9

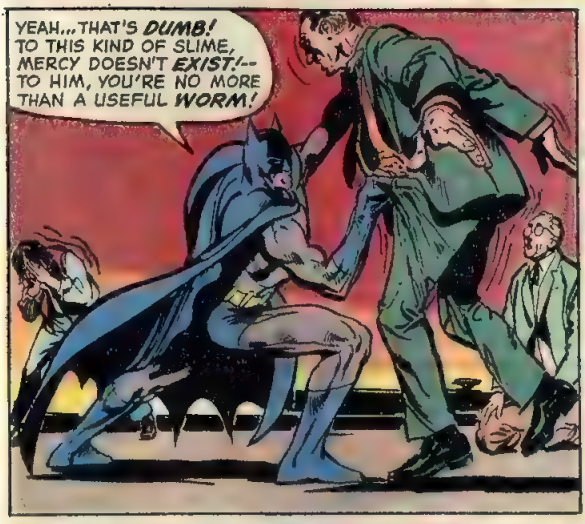

AT FIRST, THERE IS A SMELL... OF COPPER AND RUBBER OVERHEATING... AND A WISP OF PALE SMOKE...
...THEN A SUDDEN SPROUT OF FLAME AS THE INTRICATE CIRCUITS WITHIN THE COMPUTER MELT... BURN..!
THE BATMAN'S FINGERS RELAX...
--SOON, THE DEVICE BLOSSOMS TO FULL FIRE! AS THOUGH HE WERE CRAWLING THROUGH GELATIN, THE BATMAN DRAGS HIMSELF SLOWLY ACROSS THE STEEL FLOOR--
--CHOKING, STILL DAZED, PUSHED BY SHEER SURVIVAL INSTINCT, HE SEEKS ESCAPE!
--FINDS IT..! THE COOL AIR FLOODS HIS FUME-FILLED LUNGS, AND HE GASPS IN GRATITUDE!...
STILL MOVING INSTINCTIVELY, HE GRASPS THE FAMILIAR, SMOOTH SURFACE OF HIS BATROPE AND SLIDES TO SAFETY!
--WHILE, BEHIND HIM, THE HOUSE ERUPTS, COLORING THE NIGHT RED...

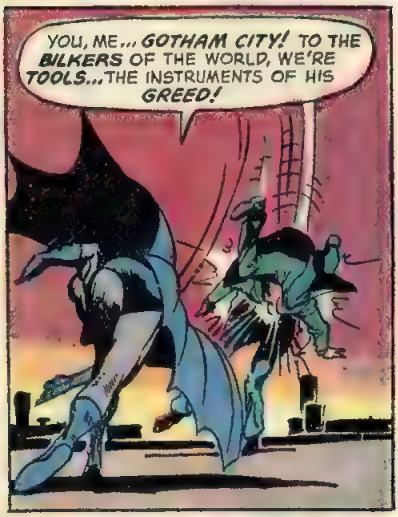
I'M LUCKY... I GUESS! IF I HADN'T BEEN WEARING GLOVES, I MIGHT'VE BEEN ELECTROCUTED!
I WAS CONGRATULATING MYSELF FOR SPOTTING THE TELLTALE CLAMP MARKS ON BILKER'S PHONY BRUCE WAYNE NOTE! MARKS WHICH REMINDED ME OF PEABODY'S EXPERIMENTS!
BUT THE EVIDENCE IN HIS LAB IS BURNED... AND HE'S GONE, ALONG WITH EVERY CHANCE OF STOPPING BILKER...
...EXCEPT ONE!
MEANWHILE--IN BILKER'S OFFICE...
YOU'VE GOT TO HELP ME...YOU'VE GOT TO! I CAN'T DEAL WITH THE LAW... WITH THE BATMAN!
YOU PROMISED NOTHING WOULD HAPPEN!
NOTHING WILL, OSGOOD! --TRUST ME!
WE'LL PUT YOU ON A SHIP... BOUND FOR AFRICA! YOU CAN HIDE AS LONG AS NECESSARY!
I HAVE NO TICKET... NO MONEY!
YOU'RE NOT TRUSTING ME-- I'LL TAKE CARE OF... EVERYTHING!
JUST... RELAX, OSGOOD!
WE'RE VERY CONCERNED ABOUT OSGOOD! AREN'T WE, RICHARD?
YOU BETCHA, BOSS!

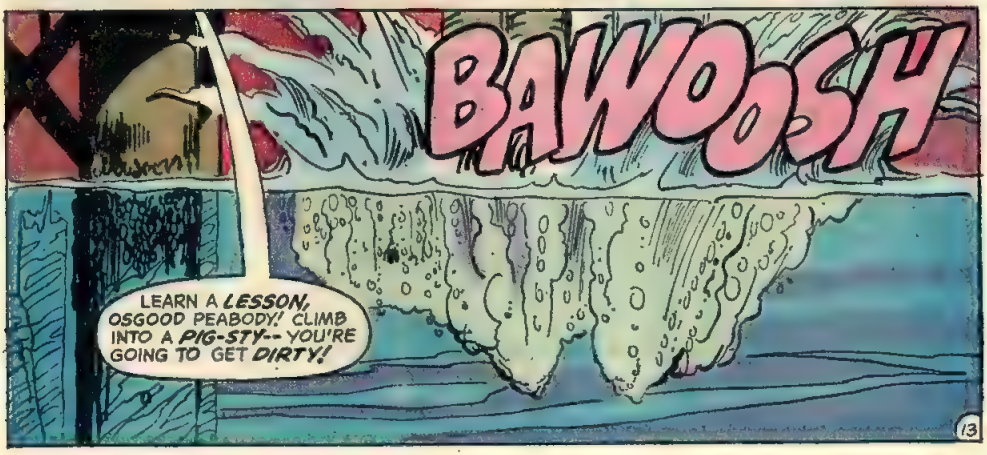
AFTER ALL, WE CAN'T LET THE POLICE GET HOLD OF YOU, OSGOOD!
A CONFESSION FROM YOU WOULD RUIN US!
PIER
WE'VE ARRIVED... AT YOUR-- AH, FINAL DESTINATION!
RIGHT THIS WAY, OSGOOD, BUDDY!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND! THERE'S NO SHIP..!
I LIED TO YOU! YOU WON'T BE GOING TO AFRICA...
BUT HE WILL BE GOIN', HUH, BOSS?
AH, YES! IN A MOMENT, HIS TROUBLES... AND OURS-- WILL BE OVER!
NO!... PLEASE!
I... I'LL DO ANYTHING..!
INDEED YOU SHALL... INCLUDING DIE!
STOP SNIVELING, OSGOOD! THESE BEAUTIES WON'T PULL THEIR TRIGGERS...
12

--THOUGH FOR A SECOND TIME TONIGHT, I'M TEMPTED-- TO WALK AWAY!
YOU DON'T DESERVE MUCH OF A BREAK!

...BECAUSE, DESPITE YOUR GENIUS WITH MACHINERY, YOU'RE STUPID!
YOU CAME TO BILKER EXPECTING MERCY...?


YEAH...THAT'S DUMB! TO THIS KIND OF SLIME, MERCY DOESN'T EXIST!-- TO HIM, YOU'RE NO MORE THAN A USEFUL WORM!


YOU, ME... GOTHAM CITY! TO THE BILKERS OF THE WORLD, WE'RE TOOLS...THE INSTRUMENTS OF HIS GREED!


BAWOOSH
LEARN A LESSON, OSGOOD PEABODY! CLIMB INTO A PIG-STY-- YOU'RE GOING TO GET DIRTY!

A WAIL OF SIRENS, AND THEN...
WE GOT YOUR MESSAGE, BATMAN! AS USUAL, YOU HANDLED THE SITUATION--NEATLY!
YOU CAN FISH BILKER AND HIS PLAYMATE OUT OF THE RIVER, COMMISSIONER!
...OR DON'T... I'M NOT IN A MOOD TO CARE!
I IMAGINE OSGOOD PEABODY IS READY TO CONFESS... IN FULL!
YES... YES!
HOW CAN I THANK YOU--? YOU SAVED MY LIFE!
NO... YOU SAVED YOUR LIFE! YOU SAID YOU NEEDED PROTECTION! I FIGURED YOU'D GO TO BILKER FOR IT!
IT WASN'T HARD TO GUESS WHAT HE'D DO! SO I HID IN HIS CAR AND WAITED!
YOU'VE CINCHED THE ELECTION OF THE HARVEY CANDIDATE!--HAPPY?
OH, SURE! I'VE EXCHANGED ONE FORM OF CORRUPTION FOR ANOTHER! -- I'M OVERJOYED!
EXCUSE ME, COMMISSIONER! I HAVE A JOURNEY TO MAKE!
...TO A SOUTH AMERICAN JUNGLE!
14

THE GOTHAM NEWS

BRUCE WAYNE FOUND ALIVE!

GOTHAM MILLIONAIRE SURVIVES JUNGLE PLANE CRASH!

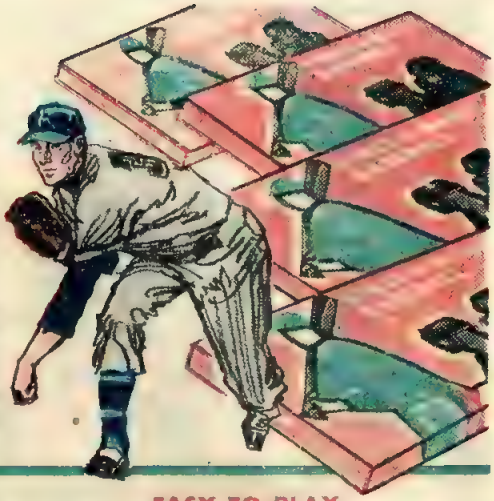
THE END

15

DC
THE GREEN LANTERN/ GREEN ARROW TEAM!
20¢
THE FLASH
SOMEBODY! PLEASE HELP ME!
I'VE GOT TO FIND OUT WHO I AM UNDER THIS MASK!
THE FLASH OF 1000 FACES!
On Sale Aug. 15

read D.C.'s BEST

YOU can manage in the Majors with STRAT-O-MATIC Baseball.



As a STRAT-O-MATIC Major League Manager, you'll make the actual game-deciding moves Houk, Hodges, Alston, Weaver and Murtaugh make. You'll decide when to pinch-hit, play the infield in, change pitchers, signal for hit-and-run, bunt or hit away. Only STRAT-O-MATIC BASEBALL brings you so realistically face-to-face with the decisions a Big League Manager makes on the playing fields.

You're always arguing with that guy down the block about who can manage a Big League team better. Well now you can settle that argument under as close to real game conditions as you can find this side of a Major League dugout. And have great fun doing it playing STRAT-O-MATIC Baseball, the real-to-life game that uses actual big league players according to their proven abilities. It's strictly up to YOU to manage your players — to pull them together under your leadership into the most powerful team possible.

You know your baseball. What to expect from clutch-hitting Roberto Clemente with men on base. How to pitch to Willie Mays with Willie McCovey on deck. How the good control pitchers like Fergy Jenkins seem to get stronger in the late innings while "wild men" like Nolan Ryan tire. In STRAT-O-MATIC its up to you to get the most out of your players.

DO THINGS YOUR WAY

As you watch a game on TV, aren't there times when you disagree with the manager's decision? When you'd hold Tom Seaver back an extra day to match the Cardinal's Ace, Bob Gibson. Well STRAT-O-MATIC is your chance to play Big League baseball YOUR way.

As a STRAT-O-MATIC Manager, if you make the right decisions, you're going to win. That's because we've taken every possible statistic on 480 Big League players and put them into a computer. All this vital information is brought together on an individual performance card for EACH player. In STRAT-O-MATIC, a player performs as he does on the field. Brooks Robinson makes those incredible plays at third. Frank Howard hits them out of sight.

EASY-TO-PLAY

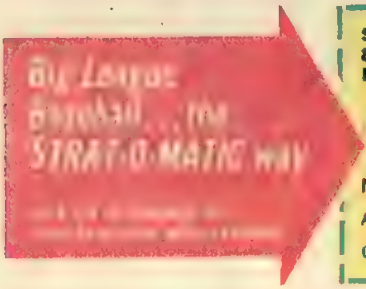
Sounds complicated? It's not. The computer does all the hard figuring. Playing STRAT-O-MATIC is easy. It's only the decisions that are hard. Should you hit and run with Boog Powell at bat. It reduces the chances of a groundball Double Play. But you take a chance on the free-swinging Powell taking a whiff as the runner is cut down at second. It's YOUR decision in STRAT-O-MATIC.

STRAT-O-MATIC Baseball begins when you make up your lineup. Would you go with Manager Spanky Anderson's day-to-day lineup for Cincinnati? Or would you slot Pete Rose in the important third place in the order rather than as lead-off? When, as Yankee Manager, is it time to yank Stan Bahnsen? Do you bring in McDaniel or Aker?

PLAY YOUR DREAM GAMES

Manage STRAT-O-MATIC against all the kids in the neighborhood. Play actual American and National League schedules. Play your inter-league "dream games" — Vida Blue on the mound for Oakland against the Mets with Tom Seaver. You can even pick your own ALL-STAR teams and manage them in a 7-game "World Series" rather than the inconclusive single game.

If you like Big League Baseball, you'll love STRAT-O-MATIC. And just playing it will help you to become a "headier" player yourself. Fill in the coupon and we'll mail you a colorful brochure explaining STRAT-O-MATIC BASEBALL in detail. It's free and includes free samples.



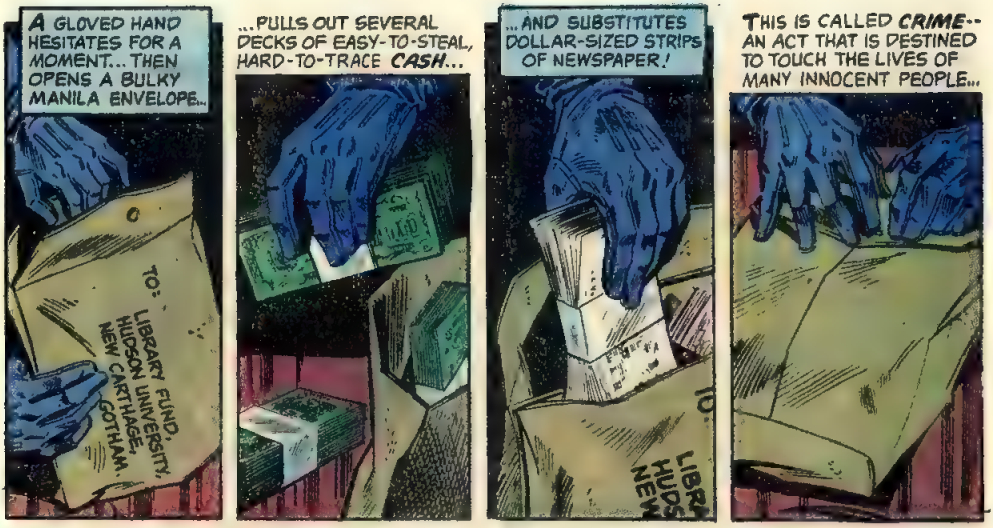
STRAT-O-MATIC GAME CO., INC. Dept. 838
82A South Bayles Avenue
Port Washington, N.Y. 11050

Please send me free brochure including samples of STRAT-O-MATIC Baseball.
I enclose 10 cents to cover postage and handling

Name _____

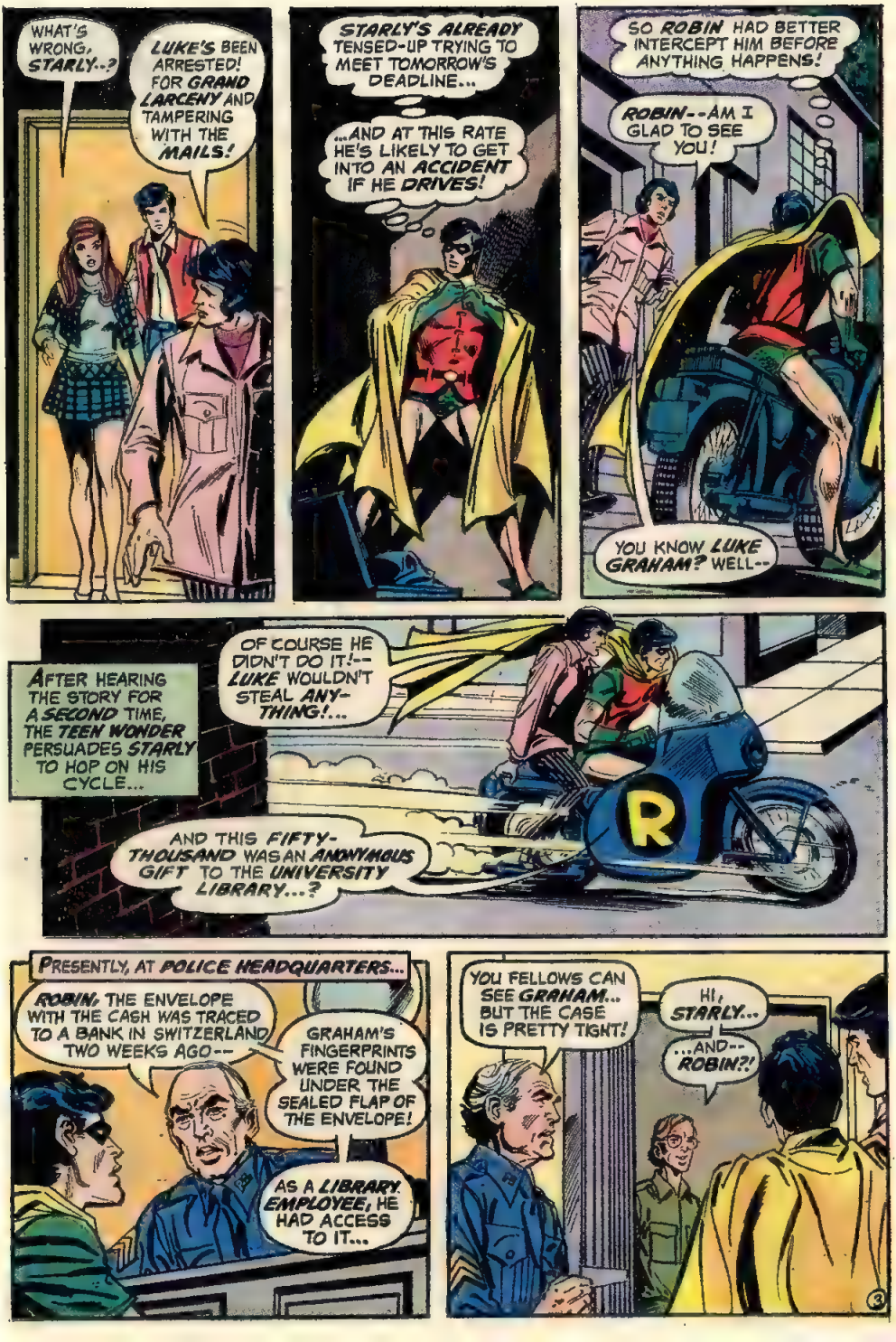
Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____


A GLOVED HAND HESITATES FOR A MOMENT... THEN OPENS A BULKY MANILA ENVELOPE..
TO: LIBRARY FUND, HUDSON UNIVERSITY, NEW CARTHAGE, GOTHAM.
...PULLS OUT SEVERAL DECKS OF EASY-TO-STEAL, HARD-TO-TRACE CASH...
...AND SUBSTITUTES DOLLAR-SIZED STRIPS OF NEWSPAPER!
THIS IS CALLED CRIME-- AN ACT THAT IS DESTINED TO TOUCH THE LIVES OF MANY INNOCENT PEOPLE...

THE PLACE IS HUDSON UNIVERSITY IN THE TOWN OF NEW CARTHAGE.
THE QUESTION FOR...
ROBIN
IS...
Story: ELLIOT MAGGIN
Art: IRV NOVICK & DICK GIORDANO
"WHO STOLE the GIFT from NOWHERE!"
8-1249

A SUNDAY AFTERNOON, AS DICK ROBIN GRAYSON WALKS INTO THE HECTIC OFFICES OF THE HUDSON HERALD -- THE UNIVERSITY'S WEEKLY STUDENT NEWSPAPER...
OKAY, SAM--HERE'S THE ARTICLE STARLY ASSIGNED...ABOUT THE TUTORING PROGRAM FOR THE KIDS IN NEW CARTHAGE!
LIKE, MAN--THIS PIECE IS A TOTAL ENIGMA...
WELL--DICK GRAYSON! YOU DO THAT INTERVIEW WITH RALPH NADER?
NO, NO!--YOU TOLD SOMEONE ELSE TO WRITE--
LOOK, STARLY--I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND YOUR EDITORIAL--
--LIKE, WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY, "WE HAVE TAKEN THE FIRST STEPS THROUGH THE BRAMBLES AND--"
JUST PRINT IT, SAM!
I'M THE EDITOR!--I'M ALLOWED TO BE VAGUE!
STARLY--IT'S LUKE ON THE PHONE--
THANKS, DIANE...
UH--THE STORY, STARLY--
YOU'RE...WHERE--?!
FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS?!
I'LL BE RIGHT OVER!


WHAT'S WRONG, STARLY..?
LUKE'S BEEN ARRESTED! FOR GRAND LARCENY AND TAMPERING WITH THE MAILS!
STARLY'S ALREADY TENSED-UP TRYING TO MEET TOMORROW'S DEADLINE...
...AND AT THIS RATE HE'S LIKELY TO GET INTO AN ACCIDENT IF HE DRIVES!
SO ROBIN HAD BETTER INTERCEPT HIM BEFORE ANYTHING HAPPENS!
ROBIN--AM I GLAD TO SEE YOU!
YOU KNOW LUKE GRAHAM? WELL--
AFTER HEARING THE STORY FOR A SECOND TIME, THE TEEN WONDER PERSUADES STARLY TO HOP ON HIS CYCLE...
OF COURSE HE DIDN'T DO IT!-- LUKE WOULDN'T STEAL ANY-THING!...
AND THIS FIFTY-THOUSAND WAS AN ANONYMOUS GIFT TO THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY...?
PRESENTLY, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
ROBIN, THE ENVELOPE WITH THE CASH WAS TRACED TO A BANK IN SWITZERLAND TWO WEEKS AGO--
GRAHAM'S FINGERPRINTS WERE FOUND UNDER THE SEALED FLAP OF THE ENVELOPE!
AS A LIBRARY EMPLOYEE, HE HAD ACCESS TO IT...
YOU FELLOWS CAN SEE GRAHAM... BUT THE CASE IS PRETTY TIGHT!
HI, STARLY...
...AND-- ROBIN?!
3

ROBIN GAVE ME A LIFT HERE!
HEY-- THIS HAS TO BE A FRAME-UP, LUKE! -- THOSE WEREN'T YOUR FINGERPRINTS--?
THEY WERE, IF THE POLICE SAY SO!
LOOK-- I DON'T WANNA--
LUKE-- DID YOU STEAL THE MONEY?
NO!
WHAT WOULD I DO WITH FIFTY-THOUSAND BUCKS?
THEN HOW DID YOUR FINGERPRINTS GET ON THE ENVELOPE?
I DON'T WANNA TALK ABOUT IT!
WHERE YOU GOING, ROBIN?
I'LL BE RIGHT BACK--
I HAVE TO CHECK OUT THAT ENVELOPE FROM SWITZERLAND--AND THOSE FINGERPRINTS!
YEAH-- THE PRINTS ARE LUKE'S...
...BUT THESE NEWSPAPERS THE THIEF USED TO STUFF THE ENVELOPES...!
HMM--
THEY'RE MOSTLY FROM FOREIGN AND OUT-OF-TOWN PAPERS!
LONDON TIMES... ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH... DAILY PLANET... PARIS HERALD-TRIBUNE...
ONLY ONE PLACE IN TOWN SUBSCRIBES TO ALL THOSE PAPERS!
ST. LOUIS POST
DAILY PLANET
PARIS
LONDON TIMES
I'VE GOT A HUNCH...
4
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING

WHAT DOES THIS CHAMPION HAVE IN COMMON...WITH YOU?

DAVE DRAPER: "Mr. America - Mr. Universe" A Weider Pupil!

See Dave's magnificent physique that won him a co-starring role in the movie "Don't Make Waves."

We can't promise you a movie career but we can guarantee a strong handsome and improved body.

HE ANSWERED A WEIDER AD—GAINED 3 INCHES ON HIS ARMS —4 INCHES ON HIS CHEST—IN 7 SHORT WEEKS! YOU TOO!

You, too—just like Dave Draper—can now own a handsome, muscular body—fast! You, too, can now finally follow the exact same instructions this champ did, and in just 15 minutes a day, in the privacy of your own home, you can begin to slap on 4 inches to your chest and 3 inches to each arm, give yourself lifeguard shoulders, muscularize your waist, get speedy legs, and exercise your entire body. The techniques are simple, there's nothing complicated, just downright enjoyable.

I don't care if, today you own the skinniest, flabbiest or most laughed at body—whether you're tall or short, young or not-so-young. If you send for my FREE 32-page booklet of muscle building information, I guarantee that you will experience a muscle building miracle; before your eyes, you will see handsome muscles start bursting out all over you. They will ripple with power, burst with energy—and for the first time in your life men will envy your body, women admire it, because at last you own a body that brings you fame instead of shame. Let me help you as I did other champions—who were also weaklings—to put an end to your weakness and shame. Write now for free information—you'll be so happy you did! After all, you have nothing to lose but your weakness!

A-C-T-I-O-N is the key to strength—make your first Ms-Men-Decision N-O-W! Fill out the coupon right now, rush it to me, and in hours I will send you absolutely free—at my own expense—the exact same muscle building information I sent to Dave Draper and numerous champions, and to over 5 million other successful students. I am known as the most successful trainer of champions. I have been turning weaklings into "Mr. Americas" and "Mr. Universes" successfully since 1936. Don't pass up this once-in-a-lifetime proven successful offer to trade in your body for the one you always dreamed of having. Remember, you will be following in the proven, safe, scientific footsteps of the World's Best Men. So hurry! Put an end to your weakness now. Send for my sensational free offer—good only to males between 13 and 75 in normal good health. This is the most time-tested, results-producing course of all time.

ABSOLUTELY FREE! MUSCLE-BUILDING INFORMATION ON HOW TO MOLD A HANDSOME BODY!

JOE WEIDER
Personal trainer of "Mr. America" "Mr. Universe" "Mr. Canada" perfect men title winners since 1936 — and over 2,000,000 successful pupils the world over!

JOE WEIDER, Dept. 80-102V
Trainer of Champions since 1936
25 Maple Street Norwood, N.J. 07648

Dear Joe: Shoot the works! I agree that just like the champions before me, I want to be a New Man! Rush me your free muscle-building information that I can use right now at home to build a handsome body. I have checked the gains I want to make. I'm enclosing 25c to cover handling and mailing charges. I am under no further obligation in any way.

NAME_____ AGE_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ STATE_____

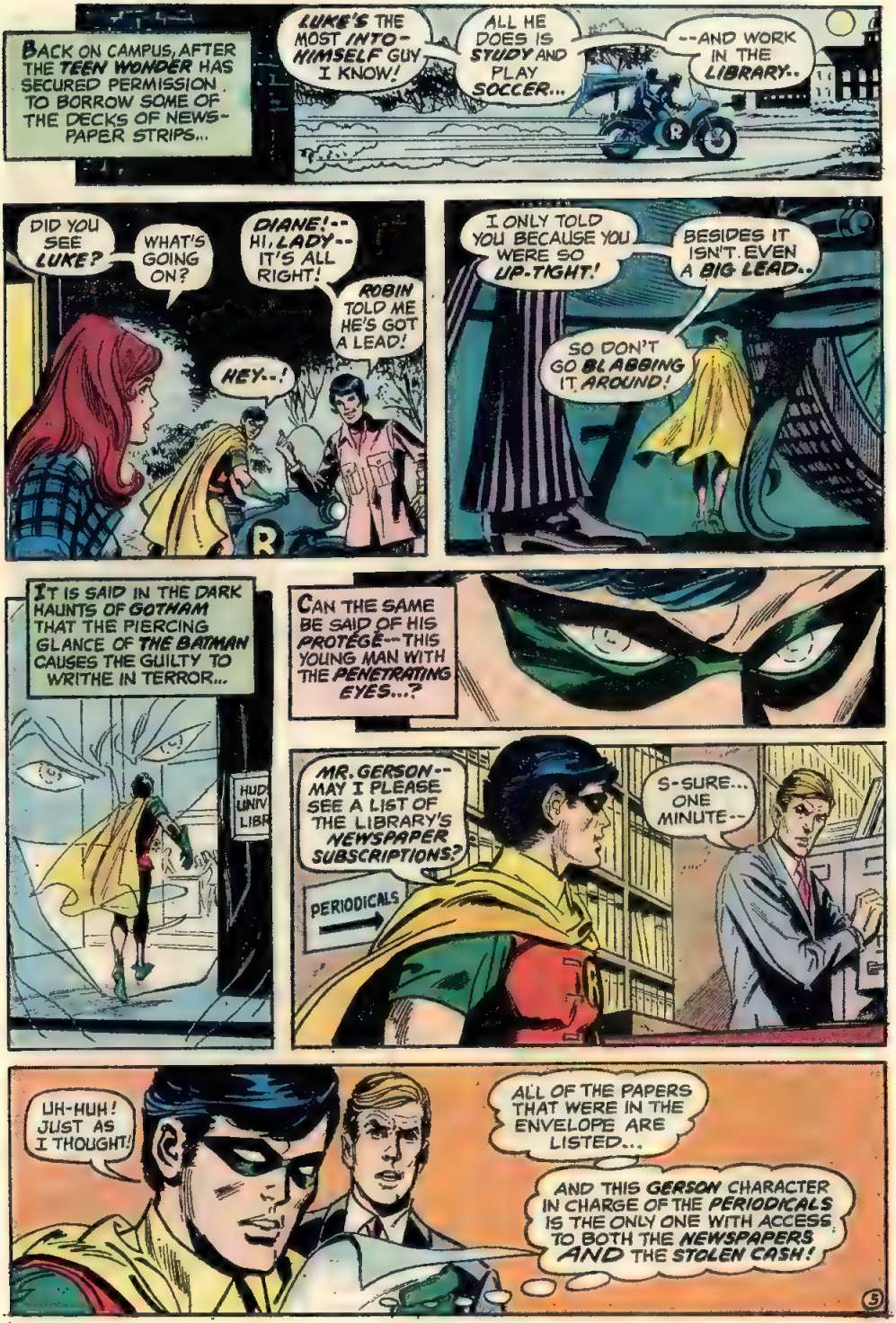
ZIP_____
(please print clearly)

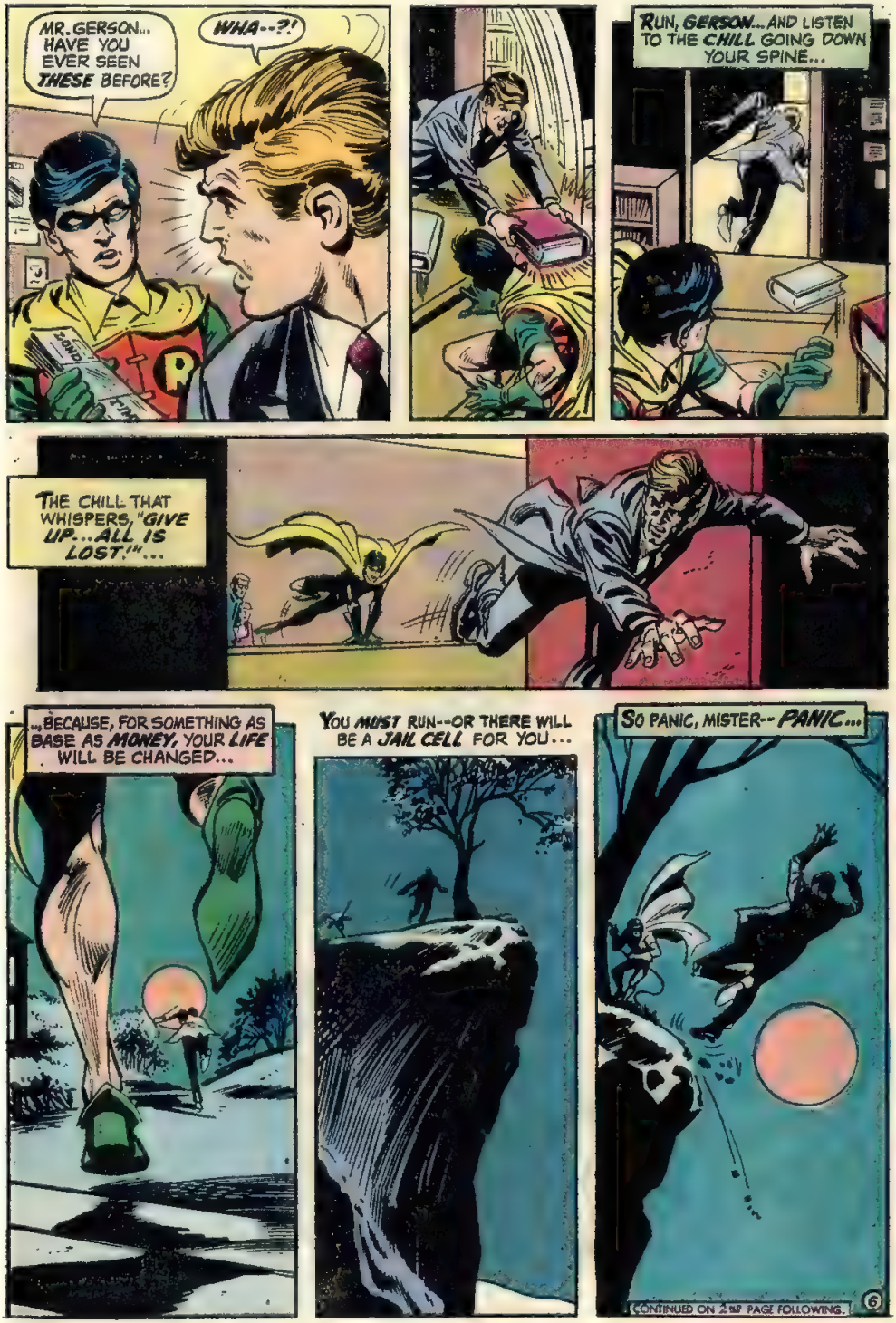
Here's the kind of body I want (Check as many as you wish).

- ☐ Bigger arms
- ☐ Larger Chest
- ☐ Broader Shoulders
- ☐ Athletic Legs
- ☐ More Weight
- ☐ Lose Weight
- ☐ Magnetic Personality

MAIL COUPON TODAY FOR FREE 32 PAGE COURSE!

NO SALESMAN WILL CALL!


BACK ON CAMPUS, AFTER THE TEEN WONDER HAS SECURED PERMISSION TO BORROW SOME OF THE DECKS OF NEWSPAPER STRIPS...
LUKE'S THE MOST INTO-HIMSELF GUY I KNOW!
ALL HE DOES IS STUDY AND PLAY SOCCER...
--AND WORK IN THE LIBRARY..
DID YOU SEE LUKE?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
DIANE!-- HI, LADY-- IT'S ALL RIGHT!
ROBIN TOLD ME HE'S GOT A LEAD!
HEY..!
I ONLY TOLD YOU BECAUSE YOU WERE SO UP-TIGHT!
BESIDES IT ISN'T EVEN A BIG LEAD..
SO DON'T GO BLABBING IT AROUND!
IT IS SAID IN THE DARK HAUNTS OF GOTHAM THAT THE PIERCING GLANCE OF THE BATMAN CAUSES THE GUILTY TO WRITHE IN TERROR...
HUD UNIV LIBR
CAN THE SAME BE SAID OF HIS PROTEGÉ--THIS YOUNG MAN WITH THE PENETRATING EYES...?
MR. GERSON-- MAY I PLEASE SEE A LIST OF THE LIBRARY'S NEWSPAPER SUBSCRIPTIONS?
PERIODICALS
S-SURE... ONE MINUTE--
UH-HUH! JUST AS I THOUGHT!
ALL OF THE PAPERS THAT WERE IN THE ENVELOPE ARE LISTED...
AND THIS GERSON CHARACTER IN CHARGE OF THE PERIODICALS IS THE ONLY ONE WITH ACCESS TO BOTH THE NEWSPAPERS AND THE STOLEN CASH!
5


MR. GERSON... HAVE YOU EVER SEEN THESE BEFORE?
WHA--?!
RUN, GERSON... AND LISTEN TO THE CHILL GOING DOWN YOUR SPINE...
THE CHILL THAT WHISPERS, "GIVE UP... ALL IS LOST!"...
...BECAUSE, FOR SOMETHING AS BASE AS MONEY, YOUR LIFE WILL BE CHANGED...
YOU MUST RUN--OR THERE WILL BE A JAIL CELL FOR YOU...
SO PANIC, MISTER-- PANIC...
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.
6

GET THESE DYNAMITE EMBROIDERED CLOTH PATCHES THAT TELL IT LIKE IT IS!

EACH GROOVY PATCH MEASURES 3". MADE TO SELL FOR MUCH, MUCH MORE. YOUR SATISFACTION IS GUARANTEED OR YOUR MONEY CHEERFULLY REFUNDED. ORDER NOW!

NOW ONLY 69c EACH FOR 3 OR MORE

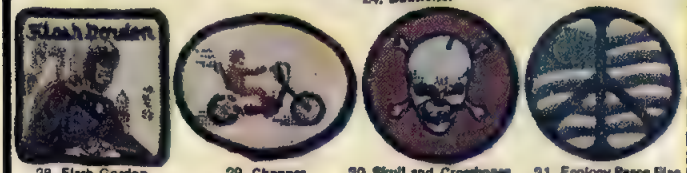
75c EACH WHEN ORDERED SEPARATELY. PAY ONLY 69c EACH FOR 3 OR MORE.

1. Peace Symbol 2. Stop 3. Psychedelic Love 4. Bunny 5. Survival (Ecology) 6. Gas Mask 7. Peace Flag

8. Peace 9. Life Symbol 10. Pollution Skull 11. Black Is Beautiful 12. Cobra 13. Help! I Need Lovin' 14. Peace Slogan

15. Life Slogan 16. Peace Sergeant 17. Woodstock Dove 18. Soul Power 19. Olympic Drinker 20. Roadrunner 21. Wily Coyote

22. Eye Spy 23. STP 24. Budweiser 25. All American Patch 26. US Flag 27. Confederate Flag



28. Flash Gordon 29. Chopper 30. Skull and Crossbones 31. Ecology Peace Flag

32. Popeye 33. Felix 34. Happy Face 35. Beatle's Sgt. Pepper

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RUSH FOLLOWING EMBLEMS TO ME:
(Order by number only)

75¢ EACH
3 or more, each 69¢

HANDLING .35

Add 4% IN NEW YORK
TOTAL $

PRINT NAME

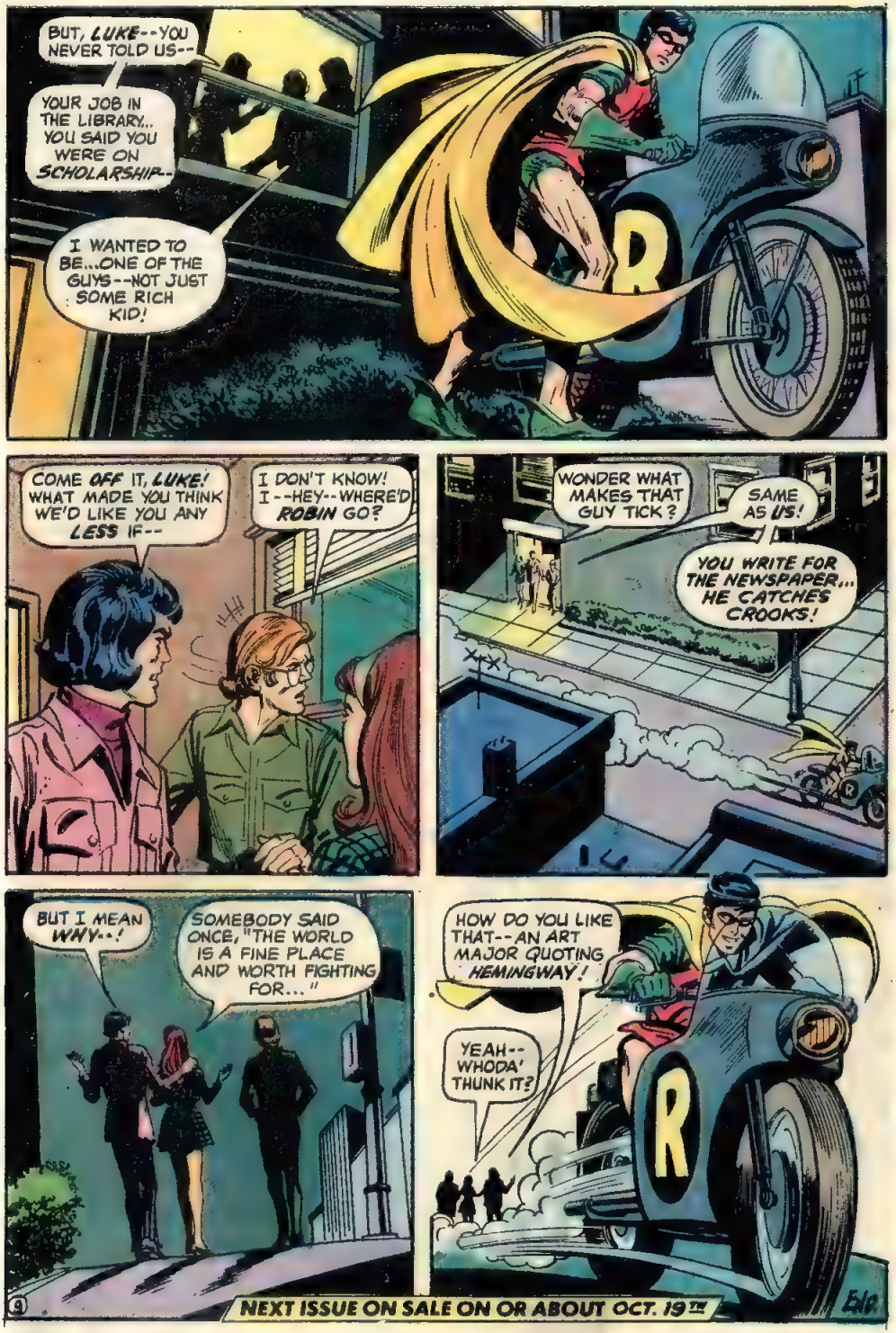
ADDRESS APT. NO.

CITY STATE ZIP

Gandalf Products Co., Dept. NC-8
P.O. Box 38, New York, N.Y. 10022

YES...I TOOK THE MONEY--
THE LIBRARY'S BUDGET WAS CUT BACK...
EVER OCCUR TO YOU THAT WITH THE FIFTY GRAND THEY WOULDN'T HAVE HAD TO "CUT BACK"?
THEY WERE GOING TO FIRE ME!
YOU GUYS WATCH THIS CLOWN...
THE POLICE'LL PICK HIM UP IN A FEW MINUTES--

SOON, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
WEIRDEST THING I EVER SAW...
I WALK IN WITH ALMOST NO EVIDENCE...
...AND THIS GUY CONFESSES IN FRONT OF WITNESSES!
R
SOME PEOPLE JUST AREN'T CUT OUT TO BE DISHONEST!
JUST ONE MORE MYSTERY... HOW LUKE'S FINGER-PRINTS GOT ON THAT ENVELOPE!
THERE'S ONLY ONE EXPLANATION I CAN COME UP WITH!
HELLO?... CREDIT-CARD CALL TO SWITZER-LAND, PLEASE!
ROBIN.. WHO ARE YOU CALLING?
A CERTAIN SWISS BANK-- TO FIND OUT WHO SENT ALL THAT MONEY ANON-YMOUSLY...
YOU FOUND OUT THE NUMBER OF THE BANK ACCOUNT?
...AND I'M ABOUT TO FIND OUT THE NAME OF HUDSON U'S ANONYMOUS BENEFACTOR!
WAIT--!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO CALL... I SENT THE MONEY!
YOU!?!
YES! THAT'S HOW MY FINGERPRINTS GOT ON THE ENVELOPE ...
WHEW!
LUKE DIDN'T CALL MY BLUFF!
YEAH--MY FAMILY IS MIND-BLOWINGLY RICH!
THE LIBRARY NEEDED MONEY--SO...
I WENT OFF TO SWITZERLAND AND SENT ALL THAT CASH SO NO ONE COULD TRACE IT--!


BUT, LUKE--YOU NEVER TOLD US--
YOUR JOB IN THE LIBRARY... YOU SAID YOU WERE ON SCHOLARSHIP--
I WANTED TO BE...ONE OF THE GUYS--NOT JUST SOME RICH KID!
R
COME OFF IT, LUKE! WHAT MADE YOU THINK WE'D LIKE YOU ANY LESS IF--
I DON'T KNOW! I--HEY--WHERE'D ROBIN GO?
WONDER WHAT MAKES THAT GUY TICK?
SAME AS US!
YOU WRITE FOR THE NEWSPAPER... HE CATCHES CROOKS!
BUT I MEAN WHY--!
SOMEBODY SAID ONCE, "THE WORLD IS A FINE PLACE AND WORTH FIGHTING FOR..."
HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT--AN ART MAJOR QUOTING HEMINGWAY!
YEAH--WHODA' THUNK IT?
R
9
NEXT ISSUE ON SALE ON OR ABOUT OCT. 19TH

Coast-to-Coast Shortage of Trained Draftsmen Opens Thousands Big Salary Jobs for Beginners!

Now you can take your pick of thousands of big salary jobs open to Draftsmen (see "help wanted" sections of metropolitan newspapers). Huge nationwide demand... U.S. Dept. of Labor reports "42% more Draftsmen needed in next 10 years—not enough applicants to fill drafting jobs available now!" Our-easy "Quick-Learn" Method has helped hundreds toward good income, security and prestige as Draftsmen. Why not you?

YOU NEED NO DRAWING SKILL... NO TECHNICAL ABILITY

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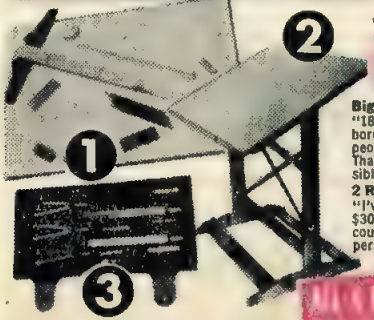

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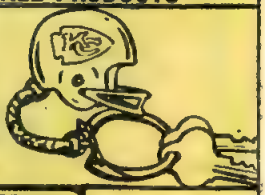

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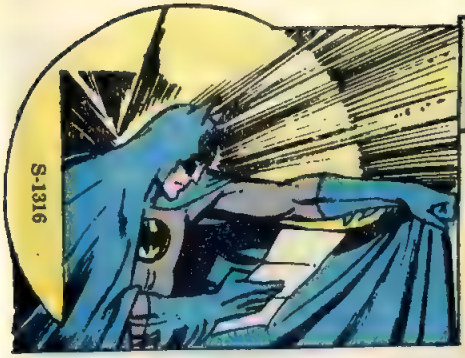

LETTERS to the BATMAN

Dear Editor:

The Batman has indeed changed. I believe that "Bruce Wayne—Rest in Peace" in *Batman* #242 will mark a turning point in *Batman's* career greater by far than any he has passed before. No longer is he the strong guy in tights knocking the two-bit guys in. Nor is he the "goody-goody" fellow who does a good turn every day for some poor underprivileged soul.

Now, thanks to Denny O'Neil, he has become *The Batman* of old, not unlike the Golden Age one depicted in this issue's "The People vs. Batman", who works outside the law, as Commissioner Gordon said, "So that he might bring these men of evil to justice." Now he is in an all-out fight with *Ra's Al Ghul*, and it is no holds barred. It's about time *The Batman* stopped being bound by the strict rules of the law (of course, if anyone tried that in real life I'd be after his head, but it's alright in comix), and went out to get the enemies of people by whatever means necessary.

The Bruce Wayne "death", incidentally, was handled very neatly (although a bit over-emphasized on the cover and splash page); the "plane disappearance" bit always leaves open the possibility that Bruce may "miraculously" reappear after *The Batman* has beaten *Ra's* (as, of course, he must—he will not settle for another stalemate and we know that the good guy never gets killed). But meanwhile, good-bye to Bruce, and *The Batman* must find another place to sleep, eat, and get his supply of money.

—RUSSELL BLAU, White Plains, N.Y.

(Well, this issue finds The Batman *back hounding the bad guys in* Gotham City*—but when you started out on this series did you (or even we, for that matter) ever imagine that for Bruce Wayne to reappear,* The Batman *would have to solve his own "murder"?!—*JS*)*

Dear Editor:

Rare, sir, it is when I am totally absorbed, moved, and *totally* entertained by a comix magazine. Such feelings did I experience with the reading of "Bruce Wayne—Rest in Peace!"

It's come to be that when Denny O'Neil writes something in a comix and says as he did in the introduction to this tale: "Beginning the most sensational, the most dangerous . . . the most IMPORTANT adventure . . ." of *The Batman*, I *believed* it. I *knew* that something big, something sensational, was in the offing. And I was right.

Pitting *The Batman* and three as yet unrecognized allies against a murderous criminal organization should prove to be an excellent springboard to draw out and illustrate the magnificent abilities of *The Batman*. I can readily understand *The Batman's* determination to squash this criminal organization of *Ra's Al Ghul*. I can understand his distaste for violence.

The stage has been set, the plot has taken its course, and we readers can now sit back and follow the course of events to its eventual conclusion. (You know, for a few minutes I actually felt that *The Batman* WAS doomed? Denny's writing skill is tremendous. Novick and Giordano are gifted.)

—CHRISTOPHER JURICICH, Burlingame, Ca.

Dear Editor:

Now that's *really* service! I sent you a letter complaining about the excessively long *Batman* stories, and you come right back with "Bruce Wayne—Rest in Peace" with only 14 pages! Of course, I know it was written and drawn long before I wrote my letter, but it is still a good move. Seriously, I think most stories should be 12 to 14 pages long (the back feature needs at least 8 pages to develop) if they aren't good enough to warrant the whole issue.

The idea of having a continued series is good, provided you don't drag it out too long—and by now I trust you not to. Particularly appreciated by this reader was the "Editor's Note" on the first page, explaining how to date these stories with respect to those in other magazines.

And I see you're going to wrap up this *Ra's Al Ghul* once and for all! The chase should be very interesting. It's too bad *Ra's* has decided to kill *Batman* after all—the idea of a ruthless criminal admiring *Batman* was quite original. But, knowing how ruthless such men are, I suppose it was inevitable.

I wish, though, you hadn't had that cook say "He's dead" like that. I mean, everyone knows you wouldn't kill *Batman*, so it was easy to guess the identity of *"Matches"* on the next page. You almost threw me off the track with that dummy, but the surprise didn't have the impact it should have had. Nonetheless, this was O'Neil's best *Batman* story in a long time.

—RICHARD H. MORRISSEY, Framingham, Ma.

Dear Editor:

"You have just witnessed the beginning . . . soon you are destined to witness . . . the end!" All I can say to these closing words to the feature story in *Batman* #242 is, "Not *too* soon, I hope!" This series has too much going for it to be a mere two- or three-parter. The idea of *The Batman* singling out what he considers to be the world's most dangerous criminal and declaring war on him, to the exclusion of all other crime-fighting duties, is intriguing and leaves one's mental appetite whetted as to what directions this unique plot will take. If all the other episodes were handled as well as "Bruce Wayne—Rest in Peace" this has got to be a truly classic series. *Batman's* admission of dependence on page 3, his unique manner of recruiting allies, and his surprising rescue of *Lo Ling* on page 14 are highlights any magazine could be proud of. I raise my glass to you, gentlemen.

—DAVID B. MICHELINIE, Jeffersonville, Ind.

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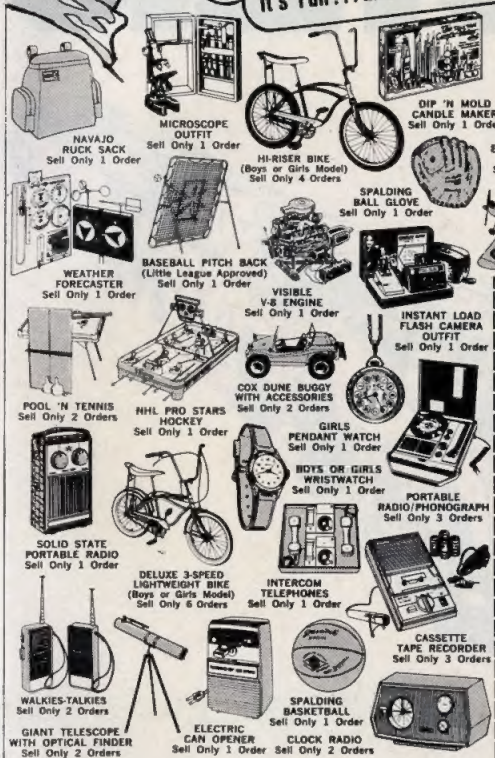

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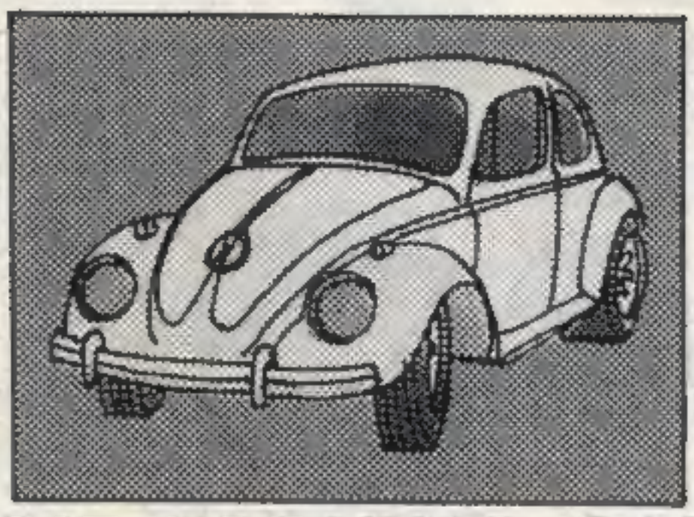

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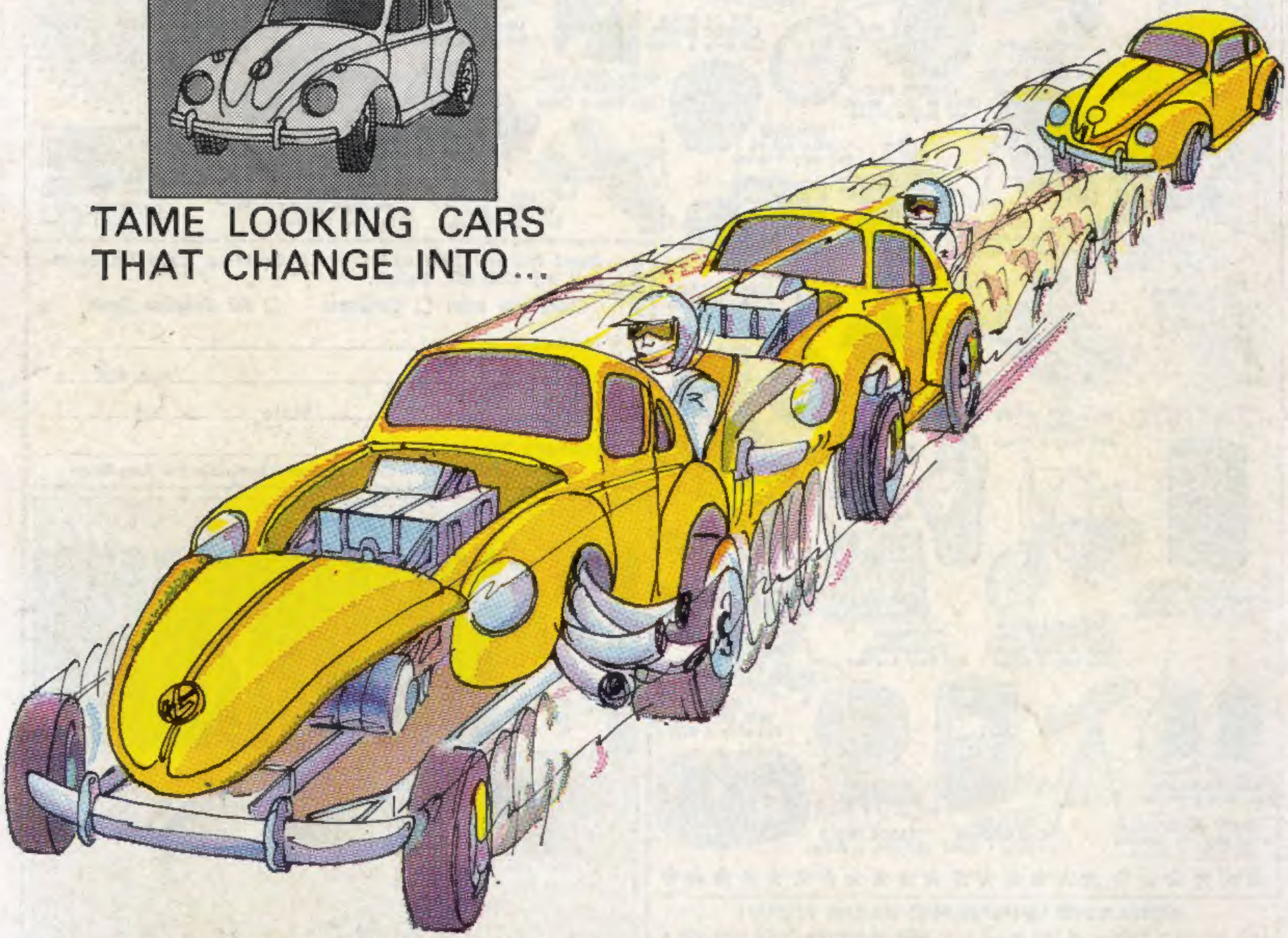

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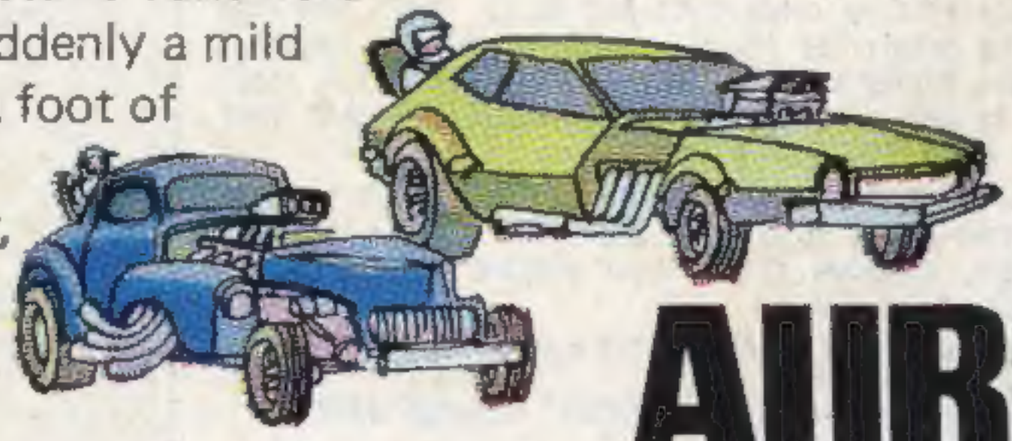

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